levels of Secretary, Additional Secretary and Joint Secretary, during the year 1999, under the provisions of the Central Staffing Scheme was 20, 14 and 109 respectively.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of the replies to parts (a) and (b) above.

Criteria for appointment as a Defence Assistant

87. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a retired employee of Government or its Instrumentalities is debarred from acting as Defence Assistant of an employee (charged official) who is serving in an Instrumentality of Deptt/Ministry different from the one the retired employee had been serving before retirement; and

(b) if so, the details of such provisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSION AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Defence assistance by a retired employee of Government or its Instrumentalities to an employee (charged official) who is serving in an Instrumentality will be in accordance with the provisions in this regard in the Rules of the Instrumentality concerned. An Instrumentality of the Government can make rules in accordance with the provisions of statute or charter of its Constitution, pursuant to which it was created/set up. The details of the rules of various Instrumentalities are not centrally maintained.